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MAYOR NAMES VETERAN CRIME FIGHTER AS CHIEF

HARTFORD, CT - Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez announced today that he was naming former three-star New York City Police Chief Patrick J. Harnett as the new leader of the City of Hartford Police Department. Harnett, who has commanded the New York City Police Department Narcotics Division, Emergency Services Unit, the 43rd Precinct in the Bronx, Major Case Squad and Crime Stoppers unit, also served as the First Deputy Director of the Federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area for New York and New Jersey. He has recently served as consultant on community policing plans to urban communities as diverse as Los Angeles, Caracas, Venezuela and Trenton.

Chief Harnett was a key member of the management team that re-engineered the New York City Police Department beginning in 1994 and produced the most dramatic reduction in crime in the city's history. Former NYPD Deputy Commissioner and Miami Police Chief John F. Timoney stated *"Chief Harnett was a critical component of the effort to implement real community policing in New York City. His leadership improved safety for city residents throughout each of New York's neighborhoods."* Former NYPD Police Commissioner and present Los Angeles Police Chief Bill Bratton stated *"Chief Harnett made a real difference for the residents of New York City by tackling drug related crime that was harming so many city neighborhoods. Hartford is lucky to have him."*

"Chief Harnett brings an impressive level of personal experience in urban policing to Hartford and a national reputation for reducing crime. He has served with distinction in critical positions throughout the New York Police Department and improved the operations in each division where he has served. Chief Harnett has shown a dedication to community policing that goes well beyond his success in the neighborhoods of New York. His willingness to work with diverse urban communities across the nation and

across the hemisphere on improving community policing shows his commitment to the ideal that a partnership between the police and community to fight crime can improve the quality of life in our cities. Chief Harnett will be a welcome addition to our police department.” Mayor Perez stated.

Chief Harnett will take command of the Hartford Police Department on June 21. Acting Chief Mark Pawlina will continue to serve as an Assistant Chief.

“I want to thank Mark Pawlina for his service to Hartford as acting Chief during this critical period for Hartford. Mark met every expectation I set for him when I appointed him and has done a great job of rebuilding the police department’s relationship with the community. I am happy that he has agreed to continue as a member of Chief Harnett’s senior staff.” Mayor Perez also stated.